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Middletown, CT 06457
860.347.6971

Locations:**CHC of Bristol**

395 North Main Street
Bristol, CT 06010
860.585.5000

CHC of Clinton

114 East Main Street
Clinton, CT 06413
860.664.0787

CHC of Danbury

8 Delay Street
Danbury, CT 06810
203.797.8330

CHC of Enfield

5 North Main Street
Enfield, CT 06082
860.253.9024

CHC of Groton

481 Gold Star Highway
Groton, CT 06340
860.446.8858

CHC @ CT Children's

76 New Britain Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
860.547.0970

CHC of Meriden

134 State Street
Meriden, CT 06450
203.237.2229

CHC of Middletown

675 Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457
860.347.6971

CHC of New Britain

85 Lafayette Street
New Britain, CT 06051
860.224.3642

CHC of New London

One Shaw's Cove
New London, CT 06320
860.447.8304

CHC of Old Saybrook

263 Main Street
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
860.388.4433

CHC of Waterbury

51 North Elm Street
Waterbury, CT 06702
203.574.4000

Day Street CHC

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Norwalk, CT 06854
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February 22, 2017

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Proposed HB 6025, An Act Allowing Medical Assistants to Administer Medication Under Supervision. I am Mark Masselli, president and CEO of Community Health Center, Inc., which serves more than 145,000 patients at 14 clinical sites and more than 200 locations throughout Connecticut.

The value of a team-based approach to health care has been recognized for more than a decade as an effective way to improve patient outcomes and management of chronic disease while reducing errors. Primary care organizations such as CHC, facing a shortage of primary care physicians and an increase in patients, many with complex medical needs, are changing from physician-centered practices into patient-focused teams with shared responsibility for care.

Medical assistants are essential members of healthcare teams at high performing primary care organizations, such as CHC, that have adopted the patient-centered model of care. In addition to traditional tasks of rooming patients, taking vital signs, setting up equipment and helping with paperwork, today's medical assistants are often have a wider array of responsibilities, including pre-visit planning, patient education, health coaching, and participating in quality improvement work. Currently, medical assistants in every state except New York and Connecticut are allowed to administer medications, including vaccines, under the supervision of a licensed healthcare provider.

It's time for Connecticut to allow medical assistants to administer medications. It will free up time for licensed providers and other specialized staff so they can focus on the tasks that require their level of expertise, ensuring better efficiency and patient service. Nurses, in particular, will gain needed time for care coordination, which is essential in our model of care.

As we continue to improve the delivery of primary care, this bill will contribute to our shared goals of better health and safe, high quality care delivered as efficiently as possible.

Thank you for your consideration on this important topic and I urge your support for HB 6025.

Mark Masselli
President, CEO



Serving underserved and uninsured patients at Connecticut's largest network of community health centers.